IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Mitsuhiro Kurano Examiner: Daniel L. Robinson

Ser. No.: 10/597,953 Art Group: 3742

Filed: 14 August 2006 Conf. No.: 8391

Title: DIRECT HEATING TUBE AND METHOD OF HEATING FLUID USING THE

SAME

Date: 15 August 2011

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action transmitted on 15 April 2011, please amend the application as follows:

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION - none.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS - none.

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS - none.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS begin on page 2.